'At Par' facilities to companies helping bank frauds

2281. SHRI E. BALANANDAN:

SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 'at par' facilities with regard to dividend warrants and refund orders granted to companies is the main source for recurring bank fraud cases in the country since inception of economic liberalisation policy; and

(b) if so, why Government has failed to take corrective measures to check bank fraud cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No Sir.

(b) RBI have advised all commercial banks vide their communication dated 27th May, 1997 (difficulties removed vide communication dated 2nd July '97) to immediately review 'at par' facilities being provided by the banks to various companies and satisfy themselves whether such facilities deserve to be extended to the concerned parties and that the facilities do not give rise to any overdraft or unauthorised withdrawal.

ADB loan or projects in Gujarat

2282. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

SMT. VEENA VERMA:

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has granted a $ 820 million loan for various projects in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the terms of the agreement and the details of projects to be financed therewith; and

(c) whether projects include a 1000 km. long LPG transmission pipeline between North-West Gujarat and Delhi, if so, the total cost and other details of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) and (b) Asian Development Bank has approved a loan of US $250 million during calendar year 1996 for the Gujarat Public Sector Resource Management Programme. The programme will support Government of Gujarat in augmenting domestic resource mobilisation, improving the allocation and efficiency of the public sector and reducing Government of Gujarat's role in commercial activities while promoting market-oriented policies to enhance private sector participation in the infrastructure. The loan has the standard ADB Ordinary Capital Resources terms and conditions with a repayment period of 15 years including a grace period of three years. The loan is scheduled to close in December, 1998.

(c) The Bank have included an LPG Transmission Pipeline Project in the pipeline for possible assistance during CY 1997 in the Central Sector. The details of the project would be know after negotiations are held and agreements signed with ADB.

Performance of Public Sector Banks in Orissa

2283. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the performance of each of the public sector banks in regard to their deposits, loan distribution etc.

deposits, loan distribution etc. during each of the last three financial years in the State of Orissa; and

(b) the target fixed and loans granted in Agricultural and Industrial sector and also under self-employment scheme during the above period by each of the banks in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Bank-wise deposits and advances of public sector banks in Orissa as at the end of December 31, 1996 (latest available), March 31, 1996 and March 31, 1995 as furnished by UCO Bank, the Convenor Bank for State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) of Orissa, is given in Annexure-I. [*See* Appendix 181, Annexure No. 60]

(b) Bank-wise target and achievement in lending to agriculture and Small Scale Industries (SSI) under Annual Credit Plan 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 upto December 1996) of Public Sector Banks in Orissa as furnished by UCO Bank is given in the Annexure—[See Appendix, Annexure No. 61]. The progress in implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) by public sector banks in Orissa as reported by UCO Bank is in Annexures [*See* Appendix 181, Annexure No. 62]

उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं के खुदरा मूल्यों पर उत्पाद शुल्क लगाया जाना

2284. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव :**
श्री ईश दत्त यादव :

क्या **वित्त** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं के खुदरा मूल्यों पर उत्पाद शुल्क लगाने का निर्णय लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसी उपभोक्ता वस्तुओं की संख्या कितनी है और उनके नाम क्या हैं; और

(ग) उक्त वस्तुओं के खुदरा मूल्यों पर उत्पाद शुल्क लगाने के पश्चात् उपभोक्ताओं के लिए इन वस्तुओं की कीमत क्या होगी और उपभोक्ताओं पर इसका क्या प्रभाव होगा ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री (सतपाल महाराज) : (क) से (ग) वित्त अधिनियम, 1997 द्वारा केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क अधिनियम, 1944 में एक नई धारा 4 क जोड़ी गई है ताकि सरकार खुदरा बिक्री मूल्य के संबंध में विनिर्दिष्ट उत्पाद शुल्क वस्तुओं पर उत्पाद शुल्क लगा सके । इस धारा के उपबन्धों को अब तक केवल विनिर्दिष्ट सौन्दर्य वर्द्धक सामग्रियों और प्रसाधन निर्मितियों के संबंध में ही लागू किया जाता रहा है । उपभोक्ताओं के लिए खुदरा मूल्य बहुत से कारकों पर निर्भर करते हैं । मात्र मूल्यांकन पद्धति में परिवर्तन के कारण पड़ने वाले प्रभाव को बताना कठिन है ।

Posting hashish through parcels

2285. SHRI O. P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drug peddlers are resorting to a novel modus operandi of posting hashish through parcels;

(b) whether the customs in Delhi intercepted 110 packets containing narcotics bound for different countries and recovered as much as 90 kg of drugs during the last one year;

(c) whether this can be termed as merely a tip of the iceberg and in fact drugs smuggling has been continuing on a very large scale; and

(d) the reasons why our intelligence and law enforcing agencies have failed to prevent this menace so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes Sir.